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Dawley Urban District Council
Annual Report
of the
Medical Officer of Health
For the Year 1971

DAWLEY URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

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OFFICERS

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

Dr. A. H. Wilde, M.B., B.Ch., D.P.H.

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J. L. McFall, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I., M.I.P.H.E.,

DEPUTY CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

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Mrs. D. G. Hamer.

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Miss. M. A. Smallwood.

C O N T E N T S

1. INTRODUCTION
2. MEDICAL SECTION
3. ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH SECTION

To the Chairman and Councillors of Dawley Urban District

Madam Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my Annual Report on the Council's Health Services for the year 1971.

Development continues at a rapid rate within the district. New Health Services are being provided and reorganisation is to take place in 1974. The combination under one authority of the Hospital, Family Doctor and Local Authority Personal Health Services will enable integration of the three branches. In the meantime, by the provision of health centres and attachment of the district nursing services to the family doctors, the working relationships are already being created in the community.

The population of the district continues to increase with a steady influx of new people and an increasing birth rate, which exceeds the death rate each year. This is expected to continue and health services are planned to expand with the population increase.

The infant mortality rate continues to compare favourably with the national rate and the perinatal mortality rate is also below the national rate.

It is disappointing to see the increasing number of deaths in younger people due to motor vehicle accidents. More care on the roads is necessary and drinking and driving is a serious problem. Any alcoholic drink will interfere with the ability to drive and to respond quickly in an emergency.

The section on Environmental Health, contributed by Mr. McFall, shows the increasing amount of work being carried out by the Public Health Inspectors. A great deal of the routine work only appears in the annual statistics, but is very necessary to prevent disease occurring in the community. In addition, cases of infectious diseases and food poisoning are investigated and measures for control are applied to prevent any further spread.

Refuse disposal is a major problem and the difficulties continue at the refuse tip. Refuse incineration appears to be the only solution with the lack of tipping space, not only in Dawley, but throughout the Telford area.

Improvement grants have been helpful as a part of the overall attack on the unsatisfactory houses which still remain in the area. Good progress is being made, as can be seen from the recently completed Housing Survey, and needs to be continued until everyone has a satisfactory house in which to live.

Stress is laid on the problems caused by the itinerant caravan dwellers. Attempts are being actively pursued to find a solution and possible sites are being considered. Better control and supervision is essential and cannot be achieved under the present arrangements.

I should like to thank the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee for their enthusiasm and interest in the work of the Health Department throughout the year and also the staff for their loyalty and support.

I am,

Your obedient servant,

A. H. WILDE,

Medical Officer of Health

MEDICAL SECTION

STATISTICS

GENERAL

	<u>Mid 1971</u>	<u>Mid 1970</u>	<u>Mid 1969</u>
Area (in acres)	9,453	9,453	9,453
Estimated Population	26,460	25,920	24,240
Number of inhabited dwellings	8,409	8,328	7,563
Rateable Value of District	£926,307	£815,038	£699,037
Estimated Product of a 1p Rate	£ 9,886	£ 3,399	£ 3,070

POPULATION

The population shows an increase of 540. This includes the natural increase of 297.

The new development in the area continues but the rate of increase in population is lower than last year. This is due to the census for 1971 producing more accurate figures.

VITAL STATISTICS

Live Births

	<u>1971</u>	<u>1970</u>	<u>1969</u>
Number	573	519	500

The increased number of live births in the area for 1971 over the number for 1970 is 54.

Live Birth Rates

	<u>1971</u> <u>Dawley</u> <u>U.D.</u>	<u>1971</u> <u>Salop</u> <u>County</u>	<u>1971</u> <u>England</u> <u>& Wales</u>	<u>1971</u> <u>Dawley</u> <u>U.D.</u>
Birth Rate (per 1,000 Population)	19.7	16.9	16.0	18.2
Illegitimate live births (percent of total live births).	10.0	6.0	8.0	8.0

The live birth rate for 1970 is again above the National Average. It is to be expected that this will continue with the new housing and the influx of young people.

The illegitimacy rate for the last five years has been:-

<u>1971</u>	<u>1970</u>	<u>1969</u>	<u>1968</u>	<u>1967</u>
10.0	8.0	10.0	7.7	10.8

The illegitimate birth rate is above the National Average. A gradual lowering is expected to conform with National trends. The actual number of illegitimate live births was 55.

STILL BIRTHS

	<u>1971</u>	<u>1970</u>	<u>1969</u>	
Number	5	10	8	
<u>Still Birth Rate</u>				
	1971 Dawley U.D.	1971 Salop County	1971 England & Wales	1970 Dawley U.D.
Still Birth Rate (per 1,000 total births).	9	15	12	19

The Still Birth rate is below the National Average. The number of still births was 5 and small fluctuations in actual numbers have an excessive effect on the rate. A reduction by 5 caused the rate to be lowered from 19 to 9.

Total Live and Still Births

	<u>1971</u>	<u>1970</u>	<u>1969</u>
Number	573	529	508

DEATHS OF INFANTS

	<u>1971</u>	<u>1970</u>	<u>1969</u>
Total under 1 year of age.	7	5	10

Infant Mortality Rate

	1971 Dawley U.D.	1971 Salop County	1971 England & Wales	1970 Dawley U.D.
<u>Infant Mortality Rate</u> (deaths under 1 year per 1,000 live births).	12	14	18	10
<u>Neonatal Mortality Rate</u> Neonatal Mortality rate (deaths under 4 weeks per 1,000 live births).	9	10	12	8
<u>Early Neonatal Mortality Rate</u> Neonatal Mortality rate (deaths under 1 week per 1,000 live births).	9	9	10	8
<u>Perinatal Mortality Rate</u> Perinatal Mortality Rate (Still births and deaths under one week per 1,000 total births).	17	24	22	26

Maternal Mortality (including abortion)

There were no deaths attributable to pregnancy during the year under review.

All the figures show improvement and are below the National Averages. The perinatal mortality is a good measure of the care being received in childbirth and it is below the National Average for the first time.

DEATHS ALL AGES

	<u>1971</u>	<u>1970</u>	<u>1969</u>	<u>1968</u>
Number	276	279	257	278

The number of deaths occurring each year shows little change when viewed over the four year period.

Death Rate All Ages

	<u>1971</u> <u>Dawley</u> <u>U.D.</u>	<u>1971</u> <u>Salop</u> <u>County</u>	<u>1971</u> <u>England</u> <u>& Wales</u>	<u>1970</u> <u>Dawley</u> <u>U.D.</u>
Death Rate (per 1,000 population).	11.8	11.1	11.6	12.2

The death rate for 1971 is comparable with the National Average and the total deaths due to the separate classifications are as follows:-

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
B19(1) Malignant Neoplasm - Buccal Cavity Etc.	1	-	1
B19(2) " " - Oesophagus	-	1	1
B19(3) " " - Stomach	6	3	9
B19(4) " " - Intestine	5	5	10
B19(6) " " - Lung, Bronchus	6	4	10
B19(7) " " - Breast	-	10	10
B19(8) " " - Uterus	-	4	4
B19(9) " " - Prostate	2	-	2
B19(11) " " - Other Etc.	12	5	17
B21 Diabetes Mellitus	1	3	4
B46(1) Other Endocrine Etc., Diseases	1	-	1
B23 Anaemias	-	1	1
B46(3) Mental Disorders	-	1	1
B46(5) Other Diseases of Nervous System	1	4	1
B26 Chronic Rheumatic Heart Diseases	-	1	1
B27 Hypertensive Disease	4	1	5
B28 Ischaemic Heart Disease	31	28	59
B29 Other Forms of Heart Disease	3	4	7
B30 Cerebrovascular Disease	13	25	38
B46(6) Other Diseases of Circulatory System	14	12	26
B32 Pneumonia	1	4	5
B33(1) Bronchitis and Emphysema	14	3	17
B33(2) Asthma	-	1	1
B46(7) Other Diseases of Respiratory System	1	-	1
B34 Peptic Ulcer	1	1	2
B36 Intestinal Obstruction & Hernia	-	1	1
B46(8) Other Diseases of Digestive System	1	-	1

		1971		
		Male	Female	Total
B38	Nephritis and Nephroses	2	1	3
B39	Hyperplasia of Prostate	2	-	2
B46(9)	Other Diseases, Genito-Urinary System	-	2	2
B46(11)	Diseases of Musculo-Skeletal System	-	1	1
B42	Congenital Anomalies	1	2	3
B43	Birth Injury, Difficult Labour Etc.,	1	-	1
B44	Other Causes of Perinatal Mortality	1	1	2
B45	Symptoms and Ill Defined Conditions	-	3	3
BE47	Motor Vehicle Accidents	9	3	12
BE48	All other Accidents	5	4	9
BE49	Suicide and Self Inflicted Injuries	2	2	2
BE50	All other external Causes	-	-	-
TOTAL - all causes		141	135	276

Deaths from Malignant Neoplastic conditions are up from 48 to 64, the most significant rises being; stomach from 5 to 9, intestine from 7 to 10, breast from 3 to 10 and other malignant neoplasms from 8 to 17.

There is a fall from 20 to 10 in deaths due to malignant neoplasm of the lung.

Annual variations will occur, but it is possible that the deaths from lung cancer are no longer increasing and may begin to show a gradual fall.

Deaths from circulatory diseases are similar to those in 1970 being 136 compared with 139.

Influenza accounted for 8 deaths in 1970 and none in 1971 and pneumonia caused death in 10 cases in 1970 but only 5 in 1971.

Motor vehicle accidents are up to 12 in 1971 compared with 5 in 1970. These are avoidable deaths and occurred in younger age groups mainly, 10 out of the 12 being under 65 years and 7 being under the age of 35 years.

Deaths due to other accidents are the same as in 1970 at 9. In this case 5 were under 65 years and 4 under 35 years of age. Again these deaths in younger age groups could have been avoided with greater care.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES Notifications

				1971	1970	1969	1968
Scarlet Fever...	...	...	...	53	29	23	9
Measles...	...	...	...	87	243	613	65
Whooping Cough..	...	...	...	192	55	4	19
Dysentery...	..	...	...	32	5	34	20
T.B. Respiratory	...	...	...	10	5	3	2
Infective Jaundice	...	...	...	5	10	28	2
Acute Meningitis	...	...	...	-	-	1	-
Food Poisoning ..	...	...	...	-	-	-	1
Ophthalmia Neonatorum.	...	...	...	1	-	-	-
TOTALS...				380	357	706	127

The number of notified cases of measles is lower than in 1970 and is showing the usual pattern of rising and falling incidence. The low point occurred during 1971 and it is expected that the increased immunisation against measles will prevent the rise that would occur during 1972 and 1973. Present indications are that this is being achieved.

Scarlet fever has shown a rising incidence each year and is continuing to do so in 1972. Further investigation is being instigated and the results will appear in the annual report for 1972.

The notifications of whooping cough were high for 1971 and have been commented on in the annual report for 1970. There have been no further cases in 1972.

Tuberculoses notifications were higher at 10 and of these 8 occurred in two families. The general incidence is not rising and there was only one notification during the first six months of 1972.

PERSONAL HEALTH SERVICES

These services are provided by the County Council under the authority of the National Health Service Act, 1946, Sections 22 to 29.

Care of Mothers and Young Children

Two modern purpose-built Clinics are situated in Dawley and Madeley. There is also a clinic in Ironbridge, which is a converted building. The Dawley and Madeley clinics are equipped for dental treatment. A new Clinic was provided at Sutton Hill, as part of the Community Centre at Stonedale, in 1968, and a similar one at Wensley Green, Woodside, in 1969.

Dawley Clinic, Doseley Road

Child Health.. ..	Tuesdays, all day. (Toddler Clinic on the first Tuesday afternoon in the month).
Child Guidance ..	Wednesday and Thursday mornings.
Dental.. ..	Tuesdays and Wednesdays all day.
Immunization.. ..	Tuesday afternoons, (except the 1st Tuesday in the month).
Audiology.. ..	By arrangement.
Mothers' Club. ..	Alternate Thursdays, 7.30.p.m. onwards.
Welfare Foods. ..	Tuesday, all day.
Probation Reporting Centre.	2nd and 4th Wednesdays and alternate Thursdays 4.0.p.m. to 7.0.p.m.
Registrars office.	Monday, Wednesday and Friday mornings.
Chiropody.. ..	2nd and 4th Monday afternoons.
Speech Therapy. ..	Wednesday afternoons.

Ironbridge Clinic, Severn Bank House

Child Health.. .. 1st and 3rd Friday Afternoons.
Chiropody.. .. 1st, 3rd and 4th Friday Mornings.
Immunization.. .. 3rd Friday afternoons.
Probation Reporting
Centre Mondays 5.0.p.m. to 8.30.p.m.
Welfare Foods. .. 1st and 3rd Friday Afternoons.
Registrars Office. Tuesdays 3.0.p.m. to 4.0.p.m. Thursdays 10.0.a.m.
to 11.30.a.m. & Fridays 2.0.p.m. to 3.30.p.m.

Madeley Clinic, Church Street,

Audiology.. .. By arrangement.
Cervical Cytology.. 2nd Friday afternoons.
Child Health.. .. Wednesday Afternoons.
Chiropody.. .. Tuesday mornings and 1st and 3rd Friday mornings.
Dental.. .. Wednesday, Fridays and by appointment.
Immunization 2nd Wednesday mornings.
Orthopaedic. Friday (three monthly) mornings.
Speech Therapy. .. Wednesday mornings.
Welfare Foods.. .. Wednesday afternoons.
Family Planning. .. 1st and 3rd Fridays 6.30.p.m. to 8.0.p.m.
Mothercraft and. .. 1st, 3rd and 4th Thursday afternoons and 2nd
Relaxation Tuesday afternoons.

Sutton Hill Clinic, Community Centre, Stonedale

Child Health.. .. Mondays, all day.
Immunization.. .. 1st & 3rd Monday afternoons.
Welfare Foods. .. Monday afternoons.
Chiropody.. .. 2nd Thursday afternoons.
Speech Therapy. .. Wednesday mornings.
Mothercraft and
Relaxation.. .. Tuesday afternoons.

Woodside Clinic, Wensley Green, Woodside

Child Health.. .. Fridays all day.
Immunization.. .. 1st and 3rd Friday Afternoons.
Welfare Foods. .. Fridays all day.
Child Guidance Tuesday Mornings.

Hospital Services

The hospital and specialist services are provided by the Birmingham Regional Hospital Board and its hospital management committee.

The district lies between large general hospitals at Wolverhampton, under the Wolverhampton Hospital Management Committee and Shrewsbury under Shrewsbury Group Hospital Management Committee, and is well served by them.

Copthorne Hospital has an isolation ward and this is where cases of infectious disease are admitted.

Consultants from both hospital management committees hold out-patient sessions at Broseley, Much Wenlock, Shifnal, Wrekin Hospitals and also at Bridgnorth.

Ambulance Services

This is provided by the County Council. Operational Control of the service is maintained throughout the 24 hours from Headquarters, Central Ambulance Station, Abbey Foregate, Shrewsbury, telephone number Shrewsbury 56331.

During 1971, the Dawley Urban District was served by ambulances from Bridgnorth, Donnington, Much Wenlock, Shifnal and Shrewsbury.

With the coming into operation of a new ambulance station at Tweedale in May, 1972, the station at Much Wenlock was closed. It is expected that the Station at Shifnal will be closed later in the year.

Vaccination and Immunization

This is carried out by both the County Council Medical Officers and General Practitioners. It is offered to pre-school children and school children against diphtheria, whooping cough, tetanus, measles and poliomyelitis, and to girls age 11 - 14 against Rubella. Vaccination against tuberculosis is also offered to school children aged 13 years and this is carried out as a routine in secondary schools with parents consent.

In the Dawley Urban District there are five health visitors, three nurse midwives and one part-time District Nurse. The midwives undertake both midwifery and district nursing duties.

Prevention of Illness, Care and After-Care

(a) Several articles of nursing equipment, such as air rings, bed pans, feeding cups, etc., are on loan to patients being nursed at home. These can be obtained from the County Council via the district nurses.

(b) Convalescence for people not requiring special nursing care or medical care but still recovering from illness can be arranged. The County Council makes frequent use of the Lady Forester's Home, Llandudno for this purpose.

(c) Treatment of tuberculosis is provided by the Regional Hospital Board at chest clinics and sanatoria, but the prevention and the after-care are shared between the Local Authority and Hospital Board. Health visitors follow up cases and do most of the contact tracing. Open air shelters can be provided by the County when required. Extra nourishment may be provided. The Local Authority and Regional Board combine in arranging amenities for Chest Xray.

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH SECTION

1. Water Supplies.
2. Sewage Disposal.
3. Refuse Collection.
4. Refuse Disposal.
5. Pest Control.
6. Housing and Slum Clearance.
7. Moveable Dwellings.
8. Clean Air Acts, 1956 and 1968.
9. Inspection and Supervision of Food.
10. Poultry Processing Premises.
11. The Offices, Shops and Railway
Premises Act, 1963.
12. The Shops Act, 1950.
13. Factories and Workshops.

Contributed by the Chief Public Health Inspector
J. L. McFall, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I., M.I.P.H.E.

1. WATER SUPPLIES

The main piped supplies are under the control of the East Shropshire Water Board and are satisfactory both in quality and quantity.

Bacteriological Samples

	<u>Samples Taken</u>	<u>Satisfactory</u>	<u>Unsatisfactory</u>
Main Supplies	33	26	7
Private Supplies	-	-	-

The Samples reported as being unsatisfactory were only slightly below the accepted standard and sometimes resulted from alteration or repairs to water mains.

Water Supply to Dwellings

Dwellings in District	9,525
Supplied from public mains.	9,339
Supplied from private mains direct to houses	3
Supplied by Public Standpipes	37
Supplied by Standpipe on premises	146

The demolition of some unfit properties has resulted in a further reduction of dwellings supplied by public standpipes from 77 in 1969 to 51 in 1970 and to 37 in 1971. The number of dwellings supplied by private standpipes has similarly been reduced to 146 from 239.

2. SEWAGE DISPOSAL

The gradual demolition of unfit dwellings and the improvement of others has resulted in the reduction of earth closets from 384 to 176. It seems possible that within a year or two this most unsatisfactory type of sanitary convenience will have been eliminated in the Urban District. Chemical closets on building and civil engineering sites will, however, continue to be required and a weekly service is provided by the Council for a small charge.

The Ironbridge and Coalbrookdale area continues to be the black spot in the District so far as sewage disposal is concerned. Crude sewage discharges to the river from many points along the riverside, the numerous outfalls to the river being constructed during the nineteenth century when there was little, if any, control over building construction and drainage facilities. Some reduction of pollution of the river has occurred due to the installation of temporary septic tanks where houses have been improved.

The provision of a sewerage system in the Ironbridge and Coalbrookdale area, which will remove the pollution problem, has been allowed for in the Council's five year programme of capital works.

There are 514 septic tanks in the District which require emptying periodically, these serve houses mainly in areas which have been developed sporadically.

A free service is provided by the Council for emptying septic tanks as required.

3. REFUSE COLLECTION

(a) Expansion of the Service

Close liaison takes place with officers of Telford Development Corporation as new housing areas and new factories are planned so that plans for refuse collection can be made well in advance of requirements.

A new system of refuse collection has been planned for the New Town Centre which should provide a modern service in keeping with the image of a modern Town Centre when the first phase opens in 1973.

(b) Refuse Collection on "Radburn" type estates

The system of refuse collection on these new estates, using pedestrian controlled electric trollies, working from small estate depots, commenced in June, 1969, and has proved to be a quiet and hygienic system of collection well suited to this type of development. The third refuse depot, the second on the Woodside Estate, was brought into use later in the year and a fourth depot to be provided in 1972 has been planned.

It has been found that the absence of any solid fuel appliances in any of the houses on these estates results in a larger quantity of refuse being collected from these estates. An average of one in five of these houses need two paper sacks per week to hold the refuse produced.

(c) Extension of Paper Sack Refuse Collection System

The Council decided as part of a five year policy plan for Council activities to extend the paper sack system to all dwellings in the Urban District over a period of five years. Tenders for the supply of the first 1,100 sack holders were received in November, for delivery to be made to the Ironbridge and Coalbrookdale Areas early in 1972.

(d) Trade Refuse

The amount of trade refuse being collected from factories and business premises increased considerably during the year. The provision of the 1 $\frac{1}{4}$ cu.yd. containers to the larger business premises enables a clean system of refuse storage and collection to be provided at reasonable cost. The use of these containers commenced in April, 1970 and in December, 1970, 39 containers were in use. At the end of 1971, 78 containers were in use, having an equivalent capacity of 936 standard refuse bins.

The income from trade refuse has increased gradually each year as the New Town develops:-

1968/69	£896	1970/71	£1017
1969/70	£987	1971/72	£1716

(e) Bulk Collection Service

A free weekly collection of bulky refuse collection is made for the collection of old furniture and other bulky household waste. This service is much appreciated and is essential particularly on the new housing estates. 549 requests were received during the year for removal of bulky waste.

(f) Civic Amenities Act

Thirty five derelict cars were removed by the Public Health Department during the year. Convenient arrangements have been made with a local scrap dealer to remove such cars on request, usually free of charge, or on making a small payment to the Council.

4. REFUSE DISPOSAL

(a) Refuse Tip

The only refuse tip used by the Council is situated in a disused quarry in private ownership. No charge has so far been made for the use of this tip, a position which may change in the future. The firm, over a number of years, has pumped water out of the quarry but ceased pumping in the autumn of 1971. At the year end water was continuing to rise at the rate of 1" per day and the situation was being closely watched. No refuse has at any time been tipped into water but with the rising water level, penetration of water into the refuse is a possibility and creates problems.

(b) Refuse Incineration

The Joint Committee of four neighbouring authorities with future refuse disposal problems continued to meet, as necessary, during the year. Enquiries were made regarding two less expensive types of incinerator but it was decided that not sufficient was known about the efficiency of the plant and the technical information and so it was decided to go ahead with the more traditional type of incinerator.

The possibility of tipping was again investigated but no acceptable and suitable tipping space could be found. It was finally decided that further delay could cause great problems in the New Town and that the incinerator project must proceed without delay.

5. PEST CONTROL

(a) Rodent Control

The one rodent operator employed by the department at the year end was finding it increasingly difficult to keep pace with the demand on his services. The Council agreed to make provision in the next year's estimates for a second rodent operator to be employed in order to cope with the increasing number of complaints received and the increased time spent in twice yearly sewer treatments due to the extended sewerage systems.

	Non- <u>Agricultural</u>	<u>Agricultural</u>
Total number of property inspections following notification.	248	10
Number infested by		
Rats	213	8
Mice	131	7
Total number of property infestations for reasons other than notification.	259	7
Number infested by		
Rats	239	7
Mice	20	0

(b) Miscellaneous Pests

The rodent operator deals with infestations of miscellaneous domestic insects in addition to their work of rat and mice destructions. The number of complaints concerning miscellaneous insect pests has increased with the development of the area. The control of bugs, fleas and other domestic insects is an essential part of environmental health control.

Cockroaches	10	Fleas	23
Ants	42	Flies	7
Wasps	25	Bees	2
Bugs	4		

6. HOUSING AND SLUM CLEARANCE

(a) Number of inhabited dwellings :-

<u>Houses</u>	<u>Shop/Living</u>	<u>Public Houses</u>	<u>Hotels</u>
8,409	90	65	2

Number of Council owned houses	3,029
Number of Corporation owned	3,105
Number of Council houses completed during 1.1.71 to 31.12.71.	47

(b) Improvement Grants

Number of Discretionary Grants approved during the period 1.1.71 to 31.12.71.	33
Number of Standard Grants approved during the period 1.1.71. to 31.12.71.	3

The interest in improvement grants continues to grow although the cost of carrying out improvement works has increased rapidly during the year. The grant of £1,000 which is payable in most instances does enable the house owner to improve the property at reasonable cost to himself and with the increasing cost of house building improvement grants make a useful contribution to the elimination of sub-standard housing.

(c) Slum Clearance

Unfit houses demolished - 87
Unfit houses closed - 11

Action was taken during the year to make Closing or Demolition Orders under the provisions of Section 16 of the Housing Act, 1957, in cases where occupiers were re-housed by the Council. No Clearance Areas were declared during the year but the number of unfit dwellings has been considerably reduced by individual action of the last few years. A programme to clear or improve the remainder of the substandard property in the Dawley Urban District, over a five year period and concurrently the Council's Housing Department is carrying out, to a programme, the improvement and modernisation of the older Council Houses.

(d) Housing Survey

The revision of the Council's 1966/67 Housing Survey was completed early in 1972, in time for inclusion in this report. The statistics given below for the original and revised surveys enable a comparison to be made and the improvement of housing standard in the area can be seen. The survey excludes Council houses and Telford Development Corporation's new housing.

<u>Statistics</u>	<u>1971/72</u>	<u>1966/67</u>
Owner/Occupier	2,123	1,371
Void normal	253	152
Void derelict	263	488
Tenanted	837	1,251
<u>WATER SUPPLY</u>		
Water supply internal	2,764	3,413
Private Water Supply	3	17
Water supply, external including W/H.	146	278
Water supplies, public standpipes	37	66
<u>DRAINAGE</u>		
To sewer	2,144	2,590
Septic tank	514	654
Other means	302	530
<u>AMENITIES</u>		
Sink	2,809	3,511
Wash Hand Basin	1,973	2,144
Water Closet	2,602	2,946
Shared Water Closet	104	213
No Sanitary accommodation	0	2
Bath	2,130	2,373

<u>CONSERVANCY</u>	<u>1971/72</u>	<u>1966/67</u>
Pail Closets	176	384
Pail Closets shared	1	22
Pit closets	49	176
Pit closets shared	14	31
<u>FOOD STORAGE</u>		
Pantries ventilated	1,627	2,194
Pantries, unventilated	1,071	1,579
Refrigerators	1,727	653
<u>CATEGORIES</u>		
I Houses fit in all respects	584	589
II Houses having minor defects only	1,362	1,398
III Houses in a varying state of unfitness	1,040	1,298
IV Houses usually fit only for demolition	479	977

7. MOVEABLE DWELLINGS

(a) Licensed Sites

At the end of 1971 there were 28 caravans on licensed sites in the Urban District.

There are only two sites in the District licensed to accommodate more than one caravan, one site being licensed for 12 caravans and the other for two caravans. All other caravans are on individual sites but generally the siting of caravans in the Dawley Urban District is not encouraged. Planning permission for individual sites for renewable annually and is only granted when essential personal need is evident.

(b) The Problem of Itinerant Caravan Dwellers

Nuisance has frequently occurred during the year from itinerant caravan dwellers moving on to areas of unoccupied land particularly in the North of the District and creating a great nuisance to residents wherever they stop by their unruly anti-social behaviour, wanton destruction of trees and fences, fouling of the surrounding land and generally ignoring the laws governing the lives of the community.

The County Council is charged under section 6 and 9 of the Caravan Act, 1968, to provide, so far as is necessary, adequate accommodation for gipsies residing in or resorting to their area and for the District Councils to exercise all other powers in relation to the sites.

At present a local authority can only prosecute the owner of the land for allowing caravans to occupy land in his ownership even though he gave no permission for the caravans to move onto his land. Power to prosecute occupiers of caravans for occupying land for more than two nights without a site licence would help considerably in moving on troublesome caravan dwellers and alleviating the legitimate complaints of residents affected. In the meantime, every effort should be taken to operate the provisions of the 1968 Act, unsatisfactory though this legislation may be.

A comprehensive study on "Gipsies and Other Travellers" by a Sociological Research Section of the Ministry of Housing and Local Government, published in 1967, shows that while an excellent survey of the gipsy problem was made, the general trend of the suggestions made was to make the laws to fit the situation rather than to reduce the numbers resorting to this way of living, hence the provisions in 1968 Act.

The following quotations from this report shows the complete lack of understanding shown in the report of the problem as it affects the community.

"It is not only the travellers who will need to adapt to the new conditions, the settled population will need to accept the travellers as their new neighbours and to learn to understand them".

The report, while giving an excellent picture of the situation, shows a lack of appreciation of the problem as it affects local residents. There is now a need for a study group to be set up to find a solution to the problem - the group should be formed from those having practical knowledge of the problems, such as Public Health Inspectors, Social Workers, Police and Education Officers; the aim should be to legislate with a view to reducing the problem rather than just to cope with it.

8. CLEAN AIR ACTS, 1956 - 1958

No further progress has been made with the establishment of Smoke Control Areas, the first one of which was deferred for twelve months in 1970. Due to all new houses erected by the Telford Development Corporation not using solid fuel and most of the new privately built houses having central heating only small localised problems have arisen during the year. As time allows however, a programme for the establishment of smoke control areas throughout the Urban District could be considered.

9. INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

(a) Meat Inspection

There is one licensed slaughterhouse in the Urban District in private ownership. The Slaughterhouse ceased to be used for the purpose during the latter part of the year but up to that time the following meat was inspected:-

P I G S

Number inspected 100%	344
<u>All diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticercosis</u>	
Whole carcasses condemned	Nil
Some part or organ condemned	31
Percentage affected	9.01
<u>Tuberculosis only</u>	
Whole carcasses condemned	Nil
Some part or organ condemned	2
Percentage affected	0.58
<u>Cysticercosis</u>	Nil

(b) Inspection of other foods

Advice is given by the Public Health Inspectors to food traders on various aspects of food hygiene during the routine visits to such premises.

Various complaints concerning unfit food have been received during the year and appropriate action taken.

During the year the following miscellaneous foods were condemned:-

	<u>Tons.</u>	<u>Cwts.</u>	<u>Lbs.</u>
Meat in slaughterhouse -			
Carcase meat	-		28
Offal	-		37
Meat in wholesale premises	-		-
Cooked meat and meat products	-		21
Canned meats		4	44
Other canned foods		8	62
Frozen Foods		5	54
Miscellaneous Foods		5	101
	<hr/>		
TOTAL	1.	2.	11.

(c) Food Hygiene (General) Regulations, 1960

Routine inspections continued to be made during the year to ensure that these regulations are observed. The following visits were made during 1971:-

402 visits were made to food premises.

28 letters were sent relating to improvements

Class of Premises	Number	Complying with Reg. 16.	No. to which Reg. 19. Applies	Premises fitted to comply with Reg.19.
Butchers	12	12	12	12
Grocers	53	53	44	44
Greengrocers	9	8	9	9
Fish Shops	1	1	1	1
Fried Fish Shops	8	7	8	7
Bread and Confectionery	6	6	6	6
Restaurants and Cafes	8	8	8	8
Hotels and Public Houses	69	65	69	69
Canteens and School Kitchens	20	20	20	20
Mfg. Premises	2	2	2	2
Sweets	13	13	4	4
Mobile Food Traders	8	8	5	5

10. POULTRY PROCESSING PREMISES

There are no such premises in the District.

11. OFFICES' SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT, 1963

(a) The public health inspectors are responsible for enforcing the provisions of this Act and associated regulations which deal with the following matters:-

Notification of employment
Cleanliness
Overcrowding
Temperatures
Ventilation
Lighting
Sanitary Conveniences
Washing facilities
Fencing of dangerous machinery
First Aid Provisions
Prohibition of heavy work
Noise and vibrations
Lifts and Hoists
Accidents on registered premises.

(b) Registrations and General Inspections

	Premises Newly Reg- istered during the year	Registered at Year end	Premises Inspected
Offices	1	2	3
Retail Shops	-	11	81
Wholesale Shops	-	1	1
Catering Establishments	-	4	12
Food Storage Depots	-	-	-
TOTALS	1	18	97

Total number of visits to registered premises - 406

12. SHOPS ACT, 1950

No action was taken during the year to see that the provisions of this Act, which deals with closing hours of shops and hours of working for young people, were observed. With few exceptions shop keepers keep well within the permitted opening hours.

13. PREScribed PARTICULARS ON THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE FACTORIES ACT, 1961, PART I OF THE ACT

(a) Inspections - for purposes of provision as to health

PREMISES (1)	Number on Reg- ister (2)	Number of		Occu- piers Prosecuted (5)
		Inspect- ions (3)	Written Notices (4)	
(a) Factories in which sections 1,2,3,4 & 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	1	1	-	-
(b) Factories not included in (a) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	116	134	6	-
(c) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding outworkers' premises).	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	117	135	6	-

(b) Cases in which DEFECTS were found:-

PARTICULARS (1)	Number of cases in which Defects were found				No. of Cases in which prose- cutions were instituted (6)
	Fnd (2)	Remed- ied (3)	To HM Insp. (4)	To HM Insp. (5)	
Want of Cleanliness (S1).	-	-	-	-	-
Overcrowding (S2)	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable Temperature (S3)	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate Ventilation (S4)	-	-	-	-	-
Ineffective drainage of floors (S6)	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary Conveniences (S7)					
(a) Insufficient	-	-	-	-	-
(b) Unsuitable or defective	2	1	-	-	-
(c) Not separate for sexes	-	-	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to outwork).	-	-	-	-	-
TOTALS	2	1	-	-	-

(c) Part VIII of the Act

No factories in the Urban District gave notice of employment of outworkers.

No outworkers were reported in the Urban District employed by factories outside the Urban District.

The following table shows the results of the survey of the water supply of the district for the year 1911-1912. The total amount of water available for the district is 1,000,000 gallons per day. The amount of water actually used is 800,000 gallons per day. The amount of water lost is 200,000 gallons per day.

Table showing the results of the survey of the water supply of the district for the year 1911-1912.

Source of water	Amount of water available (gallons per day)	Amount of water actually used (gallons per day)	Amount of water lost (gallons per day)
1. Wells	1,000,000	800,000	200,000
2. Rivers	1,000,000	800,000	200,000
3. Lakes	1,000,000	800,000	200,000
4. Springs	1,000,000	800,000	200,000
5. Other sources	1,000,000	800,000	200,000

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4. Springs	1,000,000	800,000	200,000
5. Other sources	1,000,000	800,000	200,000
6. Wells	1,000,000	800,000	200,000
7. Rivers	1,000,000	800,000	200,000
8. Lakes	1,000,000	800,000	200,000
9. Springs	1,000,000	800,000	200,000
10. Other sources	1,000,000	800,000	200,000

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